

~~SENSITIVE~~

CIA/SAVA /WVIND 710522



## WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

*Week Ending 22 May 1971*

**NSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File.**

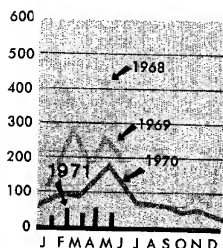
*For the President Only*

~~Top Secret~~

# SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

1968-1971

Weekly average for each month

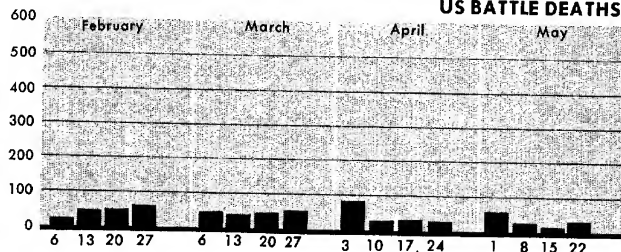


FEBRUARY 1971 - MAY 1971

Weekly data as reported

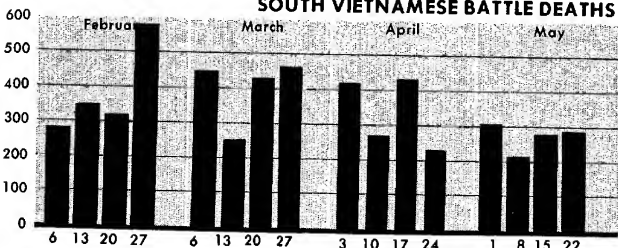
## US BATTLE DEATHS

rose to 38 from last week's 24.



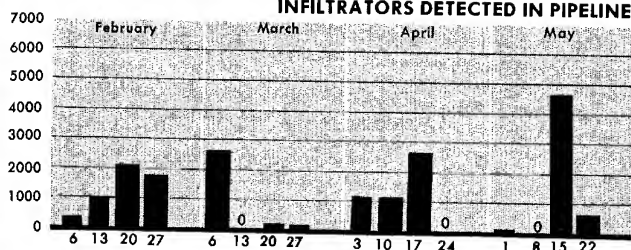
## SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS

increased slightly from the 278 of last week to 289. The official total will change as late reports are received and will be lower than the figures released to the press by the GVN.



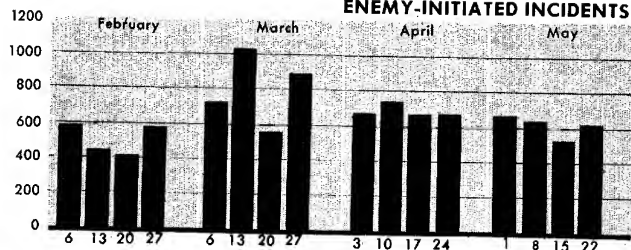
## INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE

stand at two regular and five special purpose groups with a total of 663 personnel. This raises the estimate of infiltrators since 1 October 1970 to some 64,800 - 66,800.



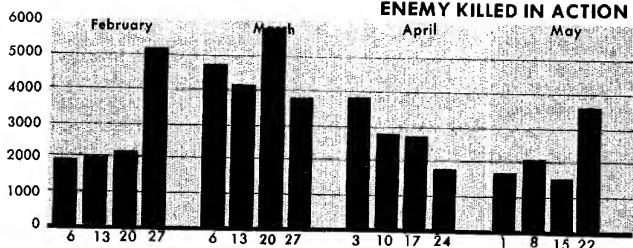
## ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS

increased to 617 from last week's 526.



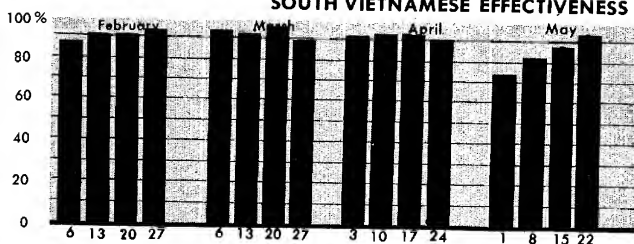
## ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION

climbed sharply to 3,063 from last week's 3-month low of 1,400.



## SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS

as measured by the percentage of enemy killed by GVN forces rose from last week's 88% to 94%.



Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

During the past week, enemy-initiated activity increased in South Vietnam's Military Regions (MR) 1, 2, and 4, but remained at a comparatively low level in MR 3. The current phase of the enemy's limited offensive is generally characterized by sapper attacks and stand-off harassment by fire. All available evidence indicates that this phase will continue at its present level and pattern for at least the remainder of the month.

In Cambodia, military activity continued at sporadic low levels. The ARVN sweep from Svay Rieng through Prey Veng Province engaged the enemy in several small-scale skirmishes while the Cambodian government's eight-battalion task force endeavoring to clear Route 3 to Kompong Som has yet to encounter substantial enemy resistance.

During the week in Laos, government forces met only light resistance northeast of Luang Prabang and it now appears that the North Vietnamese have withdrawn following their two month harassment of the Royal Capital. Southwest of the Plain of Jars, some friendly gains have been made in spite of enemy shellings. In the Panhandle, the Communists are consolidating their recent gains, though government irregulars are cautiously feeling their way back toward Dong Hene and Paksong.

Enemy Infiltration

The detection during the past week of two regular and five specially designated groups with a total of 663 men raises the estimate of personnel moving toward South Vietnam/Cambodia since 1 October 1970 to some 64,800 to 66,800. Although there are continuing indications that the Communists will keep the bulk of their logistics forces in the Panhandle, suggesting that Hanoi may intend to maintain a flow of men and supplies through Laos during this rainy season, the enemy's detailed intentions in this regard are still obscure.

South Vietnam Developments

Final 1970 figures show that the output of South Vietnam's two most important agricultural commodities -- rice and rubber -- increased substantially during the last calendar year. The rice harvest was the largest in the nation's history, primarily because of the greater use of the new high yield seeds, which accounted for about one-fifth of the planted area. On a per capita basis, the rice yield was almost equal to that of 1964, the last year of self-sufficiency, but distribution problems and (possibly) increased consumption may require some imports this fall. Rubber production rose eight percent -- the first annual increase since 1961. Rubber output, however, was still less than two-fifths of the 1960-63 average production.

Agitation by leftist groups is likely to remain at a low level for the next two months in order to avoid the possibility of government repression. Madame Ngo Ba Thanh, leader of several anti-GVN peace movements and a close associate of student activists, says that she will concentrate on organizational efforts until after July when her peace movement will begin to pick up momentum on behalf of Lower House peace candidates. Most of the An Quang Buddhist hierarchy, following the lead of Thich Tri Quang, are also planning to eschew street action in favor of legal efforts to influence the elections.

~~Top Secret~~